

REMARKS

The application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated January 27, 2004. Claims 1, 3 to 8, 10 to 12, 14 to 19 and 21 to 34 are in the application, of which Claims 1, 7, 8, 12, 18, 19 and 23 to 34 are independent. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Initially, Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication that Claims 3 and 14 contain allowable subject matter and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. These claims have not been rewritten, since it is believed that their respective independent claims are also in condition for allowance. Specifically, based on the stated reasons for allowance, all claims have been amended to specify a second copying of content data and item data of an attribute item that does not correspond to any of the attribute items of the second database, the copy being made to a predetermined item as content data thereof. In view of this change, all claims are believed allowable.

Formal objections were lodged against Claims 3 and 14, and Claims 1, 7, 12, 18, 21, 23, 24, 26, 27, 29, 30 and 32 to 34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. In making the changes discussed above, these objections and rejections were also addressed.

Claims 1, 4 to 12 and 15 to 34 were rejected under § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 5,842,222 (Lin) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,649,196 (Woodhill). The foregoing changes were made without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter, and without conceding the correctness of these rejections, but rather merely to obtain an earlier allowance.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, CA office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,


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